



**Sangeet Natak Akademi  
National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama  
New Delhi**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**10 June 2026**

**Announcement of Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (Akademi Ratna)  
&  
Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the years 2024 and 2025  
and  
Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the years 2024 and 2025**

The General Council of Sangeet Natak Akademi, the National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, New Delhi, at its meeting held from 22-26 March 2026 at New Delhi unanimously elected seven (7) eminent personalities in the field of performing arts as Akademi Fellows (Akademi Ratna). The fellowship of the Akademi is a most prestigious and rare honour, which is restricted to 40 at any given time.

The General Council also selected **108 artists** from the field of Music, Dance, Theatre, Traditional/Folk/Tribal/Music/Dance/Theatre/Puppetry, and Overall Contribution/Scholarship and others in the Performing Arts for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the years 2024 & 2025.

The Fellows and Awardees so selected represent the nation as a whole, and belong to different States and Union Territories of India. Besides, these eminent artists cover the entire gamut of the performing art forms expressed in the form of music, dance, drama, folk & tribal art, puppetry, and allied theatre art forms, etc.

The General Council of the Akademi has also selected **106 young artists** for Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the years 2024 and 2025. These awards will be conferred by the Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi in a special ceremony.

The Akademi Awards have been conferred since 1952. These honours not only symbolize the highest standard of excellence and achievement, but also recognize sustained individual work and contribution. The honour of Akademi Fellow carries a purse money of Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupees three lakh only) while the Akademi Award carries a purse money of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only), besides a Tamrapatra and Angavastram.

The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar carries a purse money of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees twenty-five thousand only) besides a Tamrapatra and an Angavastram.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Awards will be conferred by the Hon'ble President of India in a special investiture ceremony.

The list of the artists selected for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship, Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards, and Sangeet Natak Akademi Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar are attached herewith.

Raju Das  
Secretary  
Sangeet Natak Akademi

**Sangeet Natak Akademi  
New Delhi**

**List of Fellows**

Ramlal Bareth

A V Anand

Rita Ganguly

Puru Dadheech

Chittaranjan Jyotishi

Pasumarthi Rattaiah Sarma

Sudharani Raghupathy

**Sangeet Natak Akademi  
New Delhi**

**Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the year 2024**

**Field of Activity: MUSIC (12)**

Arun Kashalkar	Hindustani Vocal
Nirmalya Dey	Hindustani Vocal- Dhrupad
Bharat Bhushan Goswami	Hindustani Instrumental - Sarangi
Sanjay Mukherjee	Hindustani Instrumental - Tabla
K Vageesh	Carnatic Vocal
N. Vijay Siva	Carnatic Vocal
A S Krishnan	Carnatic Instrumental - Morchang
Komanduri Seshadri	Carnatic Instrumental - Violin
Rakesh Chaurasia	Creative and Experimental - Flute
Prabhati Mukherjee	Other Major tradition of Music- Sugam Sangeet
Anand Bhate	Other Major tradition of Music-Abhang
Samandar Khan Manganiar	Other Major tradition of Music-Mand

**Field of Activity: DANCE (12)**

Rajeswari Sainath	Bharatnatyam
Bipul Chandra Das	Kathak
Rajkumari Thambalsana Devi	Manipuri
Veena Murthy Vijay	Kuchipudi
Bichitrananda Swain	Odissi
Prema Ozah Borbayan	Sattriya
Sreedevi Rajan	Mohiniattam

Nripen Sahis	Chhau
Shashidharan Nair	Creative and Experimental
Kalamandalam Unnikrishnan	Music for Dance- Kathakali
Surya Narayana Kumara	Music for Dance - Kuchipudi
Keremane Shivananda Hegde	Other Major Traditions of Dance and Dance Theatre - Yakshagana

**Field of Activity: THEATRE (10)**

Satish Dave	Direction
T S Nagabharana	Direction
Ravi Chaturvedi	Direction
Om Katare	Direction
Gummadi Gopala Krishna Rao	Acting
Vaagai Chandrasekar	Acting
Arun Nalavde	Acting
Dhiren Merchant	Allied Theatre Arts – Lighting
Dinesh Kumar Poddar	Allied Theatre Arts – Lighting
Mukund Marathe	Traditional Theatre, Maharashtra

**Field of Activity: Folk and Tribal/Puppet/Mask Making/Instruments Making (13)**

Dursheti Ramaiah	Folk Music, Telangana
K Murugan	Folk Dance, Puducherry
S C Sharma	Folk Music, Karnataka
Atamjeet Singh	Nautanki, Uttar Pradesh
Mahendra Ram	Folk Music, Bihar
Butan Devi & Sombari Devi (Joint)	Folk Dance, Jharkhand

Ranjit Kumar Nag	Folk Dance – Sambalpuri, Odisha
Hawa Singh	Folk Music, Haryana
Veswuzo Phesao	Folk Music, Nagaland–Chakesang Music
Gulabo Sapera	Folk Dance, Rajasthan - Kalbeliya
Lourembam Bedabati Devi	Folk Music, Manipur
Subhash Narayan Nakashe	Folk Dance, Maharashtra
Kishorbhai Somabhai Mistry	Instrument making- Rudra Veena

**Field of Activity: OVERALL and others (5)**

T S Sathyavathi	Overall Contribution in Music
Voleti Rangamani	Overall Contribution in Dance
Shubhada Varadkar	Scholarship in Performing Arts (Dance)
Tapati Chowdhurie	Art Critique (Performing Arts)
Sunanda Nair	Overseas – Dance (Mohiniattam)

**Sangeet NatakAkademi  
New Delhi**

**Sangeet NatakAkademi Awards (AkademiPuraskar) for the year 2025**

**Field of Activity: MUSIC (12)**

Krishna Mohan Pathak	Hindustani Vocal - Dhrupad
Suresh Gandharv	Hindustani Vocal
Shailesh Bhagwat	Hindustani Instrumental - Shehnai
Jyoti Hegde	Hindustani Instrumental - Rudra Veena
Pantula Rama	Carnatic Vocal
Papanasam Ashok Ramani	Carnatic Vocal
Tripoonithura N Radhakrishnan	Carnatic Instrumental- Ghatam
Anoor R. Anantha Krishna Sharma	Carnatic Instrumental- Mridangam
D Srinivas	Carnatic Instrumental- Veena
Yugantar Sindoor	Other Major tradition of Music - Sugam Sangeet
Satchidananda Das	Other Major tradition of Music - Mardala
Seema Anil Sehgal	Other Major tradition of Music - Sugam Sangeet

**Field of Activity: DANCE (12)**

Roja Kanan	Bharatnatyam
Krishan Mohan Mishra (Maharaj), Vaswati Mishra & Ram Mohan Maharaj- (Trio),	Kathak
Kalamandalam Krishnakumar	Kathakali
Irengbam Nalini Devi	Manipuri
P. Nagajothy & Seetha Nagajothy (Joint)	Kuchipudi
Ileana Citaristi	Odissi

Mallika Kandali	Sattriya
Girija Chandran	Mohiniattam
Pagulu Jena	Chhau- Mayurbhanj
K Hariprasad	Music for Dance- Bharatnatyam
Bhaskar Jyoti Ojah	Music for Dance- Sattriya
S. Kumar	Other Major Tradition of Dance Theatre - Bhagvathmela

**Field of Activity: THEATRE (10)**

Kapildev Chandrakant Shukla	Direction
Kallol Bhattacharyya	Direction
Navdeep Kaur	Direction
Pramod D Pawar	Direction
Subodh Patnaik	Direction
Chetana Das	Acting
Suresh Kumar (Hajju)	Acting
Makhanlal Saraf	Acting
Ashok Patki	Allied Theatre Arts – Music for Theatre
Usha Nangiari	Major Tradition of Theatre- Nangiarkoothu

**Field of Activity: Folk and Tribal/Puppet/Mask Making/Instruments Making (13)**

Anup Ranjan Pandey	Folk Dance, Chattishgarh
Bheru Singh Chouhan	Folk Music, Madhya Pradesh- Nirguni
Surjya Kumar Debbarma	Folk Music, Tripura- Chongpreng
Joginder Singh Habbi	Folk Dance, Himanchal Pradesh
Romalo Ram	Folk Music & Dance, Jammu & Kashmir

Harmanpreet Singh	Folk Dance, Punjab
Ali Mohammad	Folk Music, Ladakh- Surna
Domin Karbak	Folk Dance, Arunachal Pradesh
K. Rosiama	Folk Music, Mizoram
Rani Maring	Instruments Making
Sushanta Kumar Mahapatra	Mask Making - Chhau
Mangla Prasad Sharma	Instruments Making
Sindhe Chithambara Rao	Shadow Puppet of Andhra Pradesh

**Field of Activity:** Overall and others (5)

Shiv Narayan Jha (Kunal)	Overall Contribution in Theatre
Maneesha Sathe	Overall Contribution in Dance (Kathak)
Rakesh Sinha	Overall Contribution (Art Photography)
Manjari Sinha	Art Critique (Performing Arts)
T S Nandakumar	Overseas – Music (Mridangam)

**Sangeeta NatakAkademi  
New Delhi**

**Ustad Bismillah Khan YuvaPuraskar – 2024**

**Field of Activity: MUSIC (11)**

Krishna Bongane and Ankita Joshi (Joint)	Hindustani Vocal
Mahalaxmi Shenoy	Hindustani Vocal
Isher Singh Namdhari	Hindustani Instrumental-Tar Shehnai
Priyank Krishna	Hindustani Instrumental-Saxophone
Lahari Kolachela	Carnatic Vocal
Sreedev Rajagopalan	Carnatic Vocal
Peri Thyagaraju	Carnatic Instrumental Music - Violin
J.A. Jayant	Carnatic Instrumental Music- Flute
Ranchhodlalji Goswami	Other Major Traditions of Music -Haveli Sangeet
Matru Prasad Das	Other Major Traditions of Music- Odissi Sangeet
Vidhi Sharma	Other Major Traditions of Music- Sugam Sangeet

**Field of Activity: DANCE (11)**

Rahul Dev Mondal	Bharatnatyam
Namrata Rai	Kathak
Kottakal Pradeep	Kathakali
Phuritshabam Debajani Devi	Manipuri
Ajay Srinivas Chakravarthy P.	Kuchipudi
Gaurishankar Dash	Odissi
Meenakshi Medhi	Sattriya
Gopika G Nath	Mohiniattam

Kuna Samal	Chhau- Saraikela
Lalit Khatana	Creative and Experimental
Lukram Tamphamani Singh	Music for Dance (Manipuri)

**Field of Activity: THEATRE (9)**

Prasanna Kumar Soni	Playwriting
Atul Satya Koushik	Playwriting
Bidyut Kumar Nath	Direction
Arpita Dhagat	Direction
Anirudh Sarkar	Acting
K Veerammal	Acting
Rohit Chandra	Allied Theatre Arts - Music for Theatre
Kalamandalam Ravikumar	Other Major Tradition of Theatre -Mizhavu
Debiprasad Mishra	Allied Theatre Arts –Lighting

**Field of Activity: Folk and Tribal/Puppet/Mask Making/Instruments Making (17)**

Dilip Hira	Folk Music, Assam
Rumi Taki	Folk Dance, Arunachal Pradesh
Dilkumari Tamang	Folk Dance, Sikkim
Manjoor Khan Manganiyar	Folk Music, Rajasthan
Amrinder Singh	Folk Dance, Punjab
Somvir Kathurwal	Folk Music, Haryana
Sharia Hamid	Folk Music, Jammu & Kashmir
Hema Negi Karasi	Folk Music, Uttarakhand
Vijesh NV	Mudiyattu, Kerala

Bhawarth Ramchandra Dekhne	Folk Music, Maharashtra- Bharod
Ovungbeni Ovung	Folk Dance, Nagaland
Chetan Vaman Khedekar	Folk Dance and Music, Goa
Gajendra Singh	Nautanki, Uttar Pradesh
Yumnam Bimota Devi	Folk Music, Manipur
Inder Jeet	Folk Music, Himachal Pradesh
Balkrishna Ganpat Masge	Puppetry, Maharashtra
Mahmood Khan	Instrument Making - Tabla

**Field of Activity: Overall Contribution/Scholarship in Performing Arts (2)**

Amit Khinchi	Overall Contribution in Performing Arts (Kathak)
Shilpa Nanjappa	Overall Contribution in Performing Arts (Bharatnatyam)

**Sangeeta NatakAkademi  
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**Ustad Bismillah Khan YuvaPuraskar – 2025**

**Field of Activity: MUSIC (11)**

Rindana Rahasya and Avinash Kumar (Joint)	Hindustani Vocal
Rahul Mishra &Rohit Mishra (Joint)	Hindustani Vocal
Ramendra Singh Solanki	Hindustani Instrumental- Tabla
Tanmay Deochake	Hindustani Instrumental- Harmonium
Ranjani Vasuki	Carnatic Vocal
Sriranjani Santhanagopalan	Carnatic Vocal
B S Prashanth	Carnatic Instrumental Music- Mridangam
Shaik Mahboob Subhani	Carnatic Instrumental Music - Mandolin
B Suchithra	Other Major Traditions of Music - Harikatha
Sivasri Skandaprasad	Other Major Traditions of Music- Sugam Sangeet
Debajit Saikia	Other Major Traditions of Music- Khol of Assam

**Field of Activity: DANCE (11)**

V T Satchidanandan	Bharatnatyam
Devika Devendra S Mangalamukhi	Kathak
Kalamandalam Neeraj	Kathakali
Tongbram Roneld Meeitei	Manipuri
Vedantam Siddhendra Varaprasad	Kuchipudi
Namrata Mehta	Odissi
Niranjan Saikia Barbayan	Sattriya
Aswathi Sankarlal	Mohiniattam

Subhashree Swain

Chhau- Mayurbhanj

Satwika Penna

Other Major Traditions of Dance & Dance Theatre-  
Andhranatyam

Pavani Pasumarthi

Music for dance

**Field of Activity: THEATRE (9)**

Ghanshyam Sahu

Playwriting

Oasis Sougajam

Playwriting

Privendra Kumar Singh

Direction

Swati Dubey

Direction

Amit Sanouria

Direction

Anand Kumar Pandey

Acting

Tila Rupa Sapkota

Acting

Divyang Srivastav

Allied Theatre Arts – Lighting

Kalamandalam Manikantan

Other Major Traditions of Theatre- Mizhavu

**Field of Activity: Folk and Tribal/Puppet/Mask Making/Instruments Making (17)**

Raju Mog

Folk Dance, Tripura

Lawmsangpuia

Folk Dance and Music, Mizoram

Akram Khan Behrupiya

Folk Dance, Rajasthan

Shilu Singh Rajput

Folk Music, Uttar Pradesh- Allah

Manisha Srivastava

Folk Music, Bihar

Somnath Mahato

Chhau Purulia, West Bengal

Hito Kiho

Choir Music, Nagaland

Nirmal Kumar, Mukesh Kumar  
and Anjali (Trio)

Folk Music, Uttarakhand

Vipin Viswanatha Pulavar

Puppetry, Kerala

C Saravanan

Folk Music, Puducherry

Pravin Pratap Jhadav

Folk Music, Maharashtra ( Jagar)

Ravice Rashid

Folk Theatre, Jammu & Kashmir

Twisha Vyas

Folk Dance, Gujarat -Garba

Shanta Cyntrick

Folk Dance, Andaman & Nicobar

Babita Hembram

Tribal Dance, Jharkhand

Hirak Jyoti Sarma

Folk Music, Assam (Tukari Geet)

Sadiq Ali

Folk Music, Ladakh

**Field of Activity: Overall (2)**

Himanshu Darmora

Overall Contribution in Performing Arts- Music

Sayak Mitra and Akash Mallick (Joint),

Overall Contribution in Performing arts (Theatre)